

my colleagues to join me today in supporting and preserving church health plans.

HONORING THOM PEABODY, L.S.
WOOD TEACHER OF THE YEAR

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 26, 2000

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to honor Thom Peabody, a man that has devoted his life to the community and to teaching. Mr. Peabody has been named the L.S. Wood teacher of the year. In recognition of this outstanding achievement, I would like to pay tribute to him today.

Mr. Peabody has been a seventh grade science teacher at the Riverside School, in Glenwood Springs, Colorado, for twenty years. His enthusiasm for teaching is apparent when you only look at his students, and you see how much he has affected their passion for learning. One former student, Audrey Hughes, recalls Mr. Peabody in this way: "Mr. Peabody is an inspiration to me and many others as a teacher, coach, and a personal role model. This seventh grade science teacher had a way of teaching the material in an exciting, interesting way that made learning easy. Students have a great deal of respect for this man because he shows respect for them. Mr. Peabody emphasizes how hard work and perseverance pay off in the end and how education is a crucial part of life. Mr. Peabody is an example of the person I hope to become someday. He has touched so many lives and means so much to all that know him. I feel privileged to have had this man as such a large part of my life. Mr. Peabody is truly my hero".

After 20 years of dedicated service, Thom recently retired. Students, staff and the community will miss this man who has touched their lives in so many ways. During his tenure, he went above and beyond the teachers call of duty, serving his community and its youth well.

It is with this, Mr. Speaker, that I would like to pay tribute to Mr. Peabody and his efforts to make his community a better place to live. We are all grateful for his service.

WILLIAM DENIHAN

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 26, 2000

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Mr. William Denihan who is being awarded by Cleveland State University with the Alumni Award for Civic Achievement. Mr. Denihan is being recognized for his community leadership and his dedicated work for the betterment of his community.

People call Mr. Denihan a "leader's leader" because of his ability to anticipate major issues, to work as a "change agent" and conduct constructive process in order to handle major issues. For the past twenty years, Mr.

Denihan has helped many prominent public leaders in Cleveland, Cuyahoga County and Ohio solve the toughest public problems.

Mr. Denihan has been selected by the Board of Cuyahoga County Commissioners to serve as executive director of the Department of Children and Family Services. Previously, Mr. Denihan has been appointed by Cleveland's Mayor Mike White to be Police Chief and Director of Public Safety. Former Governor Richard Celeste appointed Mr. Denihan to be director of the Ohio Department of Natural Resources.

Throughout his career, Mr. Denihan has been director of the city's Department of Public Safety and the Ohio Department of Highway Safety, chairman of the Nuclear Power Emergency Evaluation Committee, director of the Ohio State Employment Relations Board and Cuyahoga County personnel director.

Furthermore, Mr. Denihan is serving on the advisory boards of the Levin College's Local Officials Leadership Academy and Public Works Management Program.

Mr. Speaker, I know that my colleagues will join me in honoring Mr. Denihan's tremendous career and wish him healthy and productive continuation of his career.

CONGRATULATIONS ON THE COMPLETION OF THE HUMAN GENOME PROJECT

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 26, 2000

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize the tremendous accomplishment of our world's scientific community under the leadership of the United States' private and public research resources at their completion of the historic Human Genome Project's mapping of human Deoxyribonucleic Acid (DNA).

The complete map of human DNA, which is a collection of 100,000 genes, marks the beginning of a new era for mankind. This momentous day may seem ordinary to those who do not know what the world was like without the wheel, penicillin, electric light bulb, radio, television, or computers. Because of the work done by the laboratories and researchers primarily in this country in conjunction with partners in other nations have completed the diagram for the human body's operating instructions.

Today, when the sun rose in the East the world was fundamentally no different than it had been from the start of the previous century. However, at the setting of the sun in the West, the world now has bold new horizons in human health improvements and medical breakthroughs, because of the President' announcement that the Human Genome Project had assembled a working draft of the sequence of the human genome.

Today's announcement means that 97% of the human genome is now known, which precedes the process of finding out what are proper and improper arrangements of DNA links for health persons. We know that keys to cures of dreaded human illnesses such as

cancer, diabetes, and degenerative brain disorders reside in the DNA of human beings. However, along with the crippling physical debilitating conditions caused by spinal cord injury and brain trauma can now at long last not be seen as an end to promising lives.

I would like to make special mention of the contributions of Dr. Richard A. Gibbs and his colleagues at the Human Genome Project at the Baylor College of Medicine Human Genome Sequencing Center, located in the City of Houston, Texas. Through their collaborative work with hundreds of other researchers around the country the meticulous process was begun that created by concatenation cDNA sequencing the blueprint for human DNA. The blueprints for human DNA. The blueprints were reproduced in the form of clones that could represent segments of human DNA to create maps. After the study of sections of DNA the process has begun to understand how each of us is different. The critical questions of survival and death can be found in those links, which form human DNA.

More than anything else today's announcement gives each of us hopes that our children's tomorrow will be brighter than all of our yesterday's. We must be sure that we legislate the proper application of the medical achievements, which come from this effort, which must also remain within the reach of the poor of our nation. This goal should be a centerpiece of the continued federal support of the Human Genome Project and spin off medical technologies.

Therefore, I encourage my colleagues to join me in celebrating a momentous accomplishment and offering well wishes for the work, which must follow.

SUPERINTENDENT LARRY WILE

HON. FRED UPTON

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 26, 2000

Mr. UPTON. Mr. Speaker, it is my distinct pleasure to come today before this House and the American people to formally recognize and honor Superintendent Larry Wile of the Kalamazoo Regional Educational Service Agency for his 40 year dedication to educating Michigan's children. He has been a friend of mine and a steady friend of education. He has always had the interests of the students first.

Superintendent Wile began his career as a teacher and administrator in the Climax-Scotts Schools, a community in my district. This June, after 40 years of service, he will retire as Superintendent of the Kalamazoo Regional Educational Service Agency.

Larry Wile has had a distinguished professional life. He served as an administrator in Michigan's Comstock Public Schools. For twenty-eight years, he has served southwest Michigan first as the Assistant Superintendent and then Superintendent of the Kalamazoo Regional Educational Service Agency.

Mr. Speaker, I'm here to acknowledge Superintendent Wile as a brilliant example for many young Michiganders. Throughout his service, Larry Wile has exemplified leadership, perseverance, and above all, hopefulness for the future of our great country.